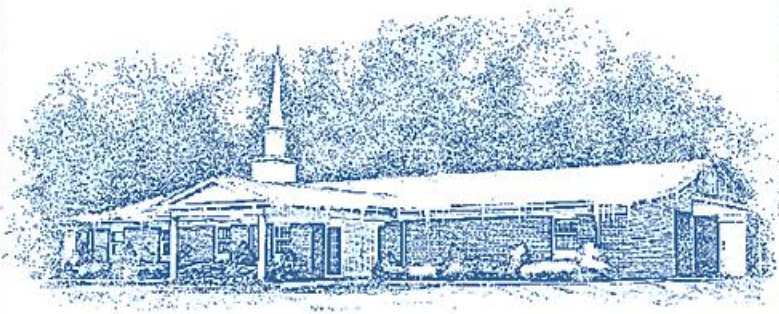
Valley Grace Brethren Church
of Armagh, PA

Peace



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." — Luke 2:14 (KJV)

December 25th, AD 2025

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

in celebration of the coming of our blessed

Lord and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, the Twenty-fourth Day of December, *in the Year of our Lord* 2025.

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*An **asterisk** (*) indicates that the Congregation will **stand** in participation (if able).*

I. Prologue: A Summons to Worship.

Prelude: *Silent Night* (chimes).
Call to worship (Ps. 47:5-8)* **and Invocation.***
Pastoral Words of Welcome.
Congregation: *O Come, All Ye Faithful (#130; vv. 1, 3, 4)**

II. The Christmas Story in Scripture and in Song.

1. A Prophecy Fulfilled: From Glory to Obscurity

Reading: Luke 2:1-7.
Congregation: *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* (#128; vv. 1-4).

2. Tidings of Great Joy

Reading: Luke 2:8-14.
Congregation: *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"* (#118; vv. 1, 2, 4).

3. "But Whom Say Ye That I Am?"

Reading: John 1:1-5; 10-14.
Congregation: *"What Child is This?"* (#126; vv. 1-3).

4. "Go Ye Into All The World..."

Reading: Luke 2:15-20.
Congregation: *"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"* (#127; 1-3).

5. "Thy Kingdom Come"

Reading: Revelation 19:11-16.
Congregation: *"Joy to the World!"* (#117; vv. 1-4).*

III. The Lighting of the Candles.

Lighting the Candles: *"O Holy Night"* (chimes).*
Congregational Song: *"Silent Night! Holy Night!"* (# 122).*
Closing Prayer;* **Benediction & Dismissal*** (Rom. 15:33).

A Special Thanks to our Reader, Don Beach!

One Solitary Life.

(based upon an essay by the Rev. James Allen Francis)

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman.
He grew up in still another village where He worked until He was thirty.
Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book.
He never held an office.
He never had a family or owned a home.
He never went to college.
He never traveled (except in His infancy)
More than 200 miles from the place where He was born.
He did none of the things that one usually associates with greatness.
He had no credentials but Himself.

He was only 33 when the tide of public opinion turned against Him.
His friends ran away from Him.
One of them denied Him.
He was handed over to His enemies
And went through the mockery of a sham trial.
He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves.
While He was dying His executioners gambled for His clothing,
The only property He had on earth.
When He was dead
He was laid in a borrowed tomb
Through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone.
Today, He is the central figure of the human race,
The leader of all of man's progress,
And the only hope for its redemption.

All the armies that ever marched,
All the navies that ever sailed,
All the parliaments that ever sat,
All the kings that ever reigned,
Put together,
Have not affected the life of man on earth as much as that

One Solitary Life.

SILENT NIGHT! HOLY NIGHT!

LYRICS: Joseph Mohr; MUSIC: Franz Gruber.

Verse One

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin
Mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse Two

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!

Verse Three

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.